

# **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**

The mission of Prison Fellowship is to mobilize and assist the Christian community in its ministry to prisoners, ex-prisoners, victims, and their families; and in the advancement of restorative justice.

1. **In 2002, 58,700 innocent people were remanded into custody awaiting trial.** This is an increase of ten per cent on the previous year.
2. **At the end of September 2003 there were 13,266 remand prisoners in England and Wales - around one in six of the overall prison population. The majority, 8,220, were unconvicted awaiting trial.**
3. **At the end of September 2003, the number of women on remand was 1,062, nearly a quarter (22 per cent) of the female prison population.** Women on remand constitute one of the fastest-growing groups within the prison population: In one year between 2001 and 2002 the number of women imprisoned awaiting trial increased by 20 per cent.
4. **In 2002 the average age of a remand prisoner was 29. More than one in five were under 21.** Around 5 per cent were aged between 15 and 17 years age.
5. **Eight out of ten people received into prison on remand are for non-violent offences.** In 2002 the largest proportion, 23 per cent, were remanded into custody for theft and handling of stolen goods.
6. **One in five of all those held on remand are acquitted.** In 2002 this amounted to 11,742 people. The vast majority received no compensation for this period of incarceration.
7. **Half of all remand prisoners go on to receive a non-custodial sentence.** Of male prisoners held on remand in 2002, 50 per cent received a non-custodial sentence; of female remand prisoners, 59 per cent received a non-custodial sentence.
8. **In 2002 36 people held in prison awaiting trial took their lives - more than a third of all prison suicides that year.** At the end of November 2003 33 remand prisoners had taken their own lives in that year.
9. **According to research by the Office for National Statistics, more than a quarter of male remand prisoners have attempted suicide at some stage in their life.** For female remand prisoners the figure is even higher. More than forty per cent have attempted suicide before entering prison.
10. **In 2002 the average time on remand awaiting trial for male prisoners was 49 days and for women was 37 days.** In 2002, 1,390 prisoners had spent over 6 months on remand, of whom 220 had spent over two years in prison.
11. **A significant proportion of those held on remand have been in prison previously.** A study carried out in 2000 found that 65 per cent of respondents had been remanded into custody before.
12. **According to the Office for National Statistics nearly three quarters of male remand prisoners and nearly half of female remand prisoners have used at least one drug in the year before coming to prison.** Nearly a third of men used heroin in that year and more than forty per cent of women. Overall these figures are much higher than for sentenced prisoners.
13. **Remand prisoners suffer from a range of mental health problems. According to the Office for National Statistics more than three quarters of male remand prisoners suffer from a personality disorder.** One in ten suffer from a functional psychosis and more than half suffer from depression. For female remand prisoners, nearly two thirds suffer from depression. Once again these figures are higher than for sentenced prisoners. Research has found that nine per cent of remand prisoners require immediate transfer to the NHS.
14. **Remand prisoners are more likely than sentenced prisoners to have a history of living in unstable or unsuitable accommodation.** Research by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NACRO) has suggested they are five times more likely to have lived in a hostel prior to imprisonment
15. **Over two in three of all prisoners are unemployed when they go to jail.** But research by NACRO has found that remand prisoners are less likely than sentenced prisoners to have had a job before prison. The minority of remand prisoners who do have jobs are more likely to lose them whilst in prison.

## HOW YOUR DONATION HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO HELP:

To be incarcerated in Belize's only prison prior to 2002 meant leaving one's humanity and dignity at the gates. The prison held nearly triple the capacity it was built for, leaving the majority of inmates sleeping without bedding on the wet floors of their crowded cells that flooded during rainstorms. The prison itself had no kitchen or sewage facilities, no potable water and no garbage disposal. Food was prepared in sheds overrun by cockroaches and feral cats. Inmates received their meals shoveled from a wheelbarrow. Those without plates were forced to receive their food in their outstretched hands.

In just two years, Spiritual Non-Profit organizations have succeeded in transforming this once grim and inhumane prison into a place of meaningful rehabilitation. Using resources from their government, contract and local business donations, the foundation began by constructing new buildings to ease overcrowding, implementing a prison water system with filtration and water treatment equipment and building a clean mess hall.

### **PARTICIPATING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:**

Advocates International  
[www.advocatesinternational.org](http://www.advocatesinternational.org)

Christian Military Fellowship  
[www.cmfhq.org](http://www.cmfhq.org)

Christian Broadcasting Network, Inc.  
[www.cbn.com](http://www.cbn.com)

Crista Ministries  
[www.crista.org](http://www.crista.org)

FaithTrust Institute  
[www.faithtrustinstitute.org](http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org)

The Navigator  
[www.navmilitary.org](http://www.navmilitary.org)

Officers' Christian Fellowship  
[www.ocfusa.org](http://www.ocfusa.org)

Prison Fellowship  
[www.pfm.org](http://www.pfm.org)

Prison Fellowship International  
[www.pfi.org](http://www.pfi.org)

Voice of the Martyrs  
[www.persecution.org](http://www.persecution.org)